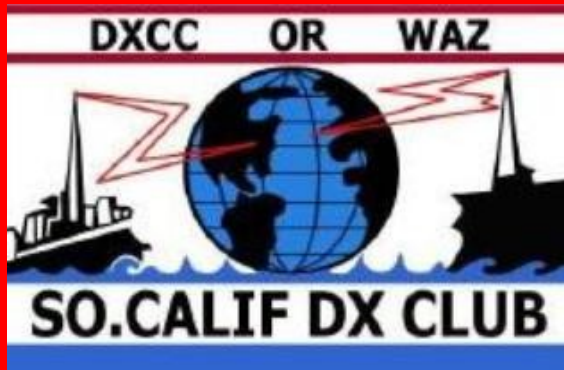




62 Years of DX-cellence

September 2010



BULLetin

The Southern California DX Club Newsletter est. 1947

*"If you need him
get in there and
work him"*

The Southern California DX Club is a group of dedicated men and women active in the amateur radio community who enjoy communicating over the air with other radio amateurs around the world.

The newsletter is published every month and is released to its members about the first of each month. Amateur and DX related letters, news and pictures are welcome and will be published as time and space permit.

Articles may be republished with the recognition of the author and the club. Reuse of copyrighted materials require the original author's permission.

Any questions regarding this newsletter or its articles should be addressed to the editor, Bill
n6rv@scdxc.org

Meetings are held on the second Thursday of the month at 7:30 PM except April, June and December.

Please check the club web site for events and details at
<http://www.scdxc.org>

If you are in the area please say hello on our repeater
W6AM/R145.48,(-) 100Hz PL



NEXT MEETING

September 9th @ 7:30 PM!

Anchors Away!

**Bring those boat anchors to the auction!
Just don't strain yourself doing it!**

- **Come and Vote on the Constitution**
- **Summer Bash Pictures!**
- **Don is on the Road to Asia!**
- **Marty, K2PLF Achieves 6M DXCC!**
All on Sporadic E!
- **We Still Need**
Reporters
Articles
Interesting Tidbits

**Making friends all over the world using the magic of Amateur Radio.
Sponsors of the International DX Convention, since 1949**

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS REVISION NOTICE

By now everyone on our membership roster has been sent this notification. If you did not receive it then please check with our membership chairman to make sure your email address and / or mailing address is current. Please read the revised constitution and be prepared to vote at this month's general meeting!

Subject: required voting of the SCDXC constitution and by-laws revision

You are receiving this mail because you are listed as a full member of The Southern California DX Club with voting privileges. **A revised copy of the proposed Club Constitution and By-Laws are attached for your review.**

To voting members of the Southern California DX Club.

The Club Constitution and By-Laws have been in an on-going process of revision for the last 1 1/2 years. What started with our past President, Tom, N6OT, and a committee consisting of Arnie Shatz, N6HC, Jim Shryne, N6DHz, and Steve Shane, W6NRQ, has continued with help from many people. A very big thank you goes to Mel Hughes, K6SY, and his wife Doris, K6KSY, for their untiring support and inputs. The complete revision, as accepted and approved by the Board at the August 21, 2010 Board meeting, will be presented to the voting members for acceptance at our next regular meeting on September 9, 2010. Please try to attend to cast your vote.

The revised Constitution and By-Laws have been completely redesigned to permit an easier understanding of Club rules with subjects placed in the same category rather than scattered through the document. One major change is the addition of Inyo county to the area in which full voting members must reside. The ARRL Orange section with Inyo county as one of it's members is added to include all Orange Section counties in the designated Southern California sphere of counties.

Steve Shane, W6NRQ
Secretary, SCDXC
secretary@scdxc.org

UPDATED SCDXC OFFICER GUIDELINES

Concurrent with the constitution and by-laws revision the committee also updated the officer guidelines. This can be found on the SCDXC website under board members. Follow the hypertext link at the top of the page or use the link below/

http://www.scdxc.org/download/Officer_Guidelines.pdf



THE PREZ SEZ
Larry Mallek, K6YUI,
President – Southern California DX
Club
k6yui@scdxc.org

Treasurer's Report
Club financial information is available on request. Contact the treasurer.

Officer Guidelines
The revised version of the Officers Guidelines is available on our website. See the hyperlink below.

Hello to all again!

Well it was another great meeting in August with the room almost full. Only a few seats were open. I want to thank Dick, N6AA for coming and let us all know what is going on at ARRL Headquarters. Sure glad we don't have the problems like the ARRL does.

John did another great job with prizes to the point where Don – NK6A was heard saying that at least this time I am taking home a flashlight after buying tickets and not winning anything for so long. For those that were not at the meeting I was handing out small led flashlights instead of a free ticket for the drawing. This was an idea from John – N6QQ our Vice President who has to be one of the only people I know that likes to go shopping.

Well by now I hope that all those people that did not go to the Summer Bash at the K6IRD/W6IRD house have heard how great it was. The 3 BBQ cooks of the SCDXC did their thing again and the side dishes were soon gone. Thanks to all that helped.

As it is getting on in the year I hope that those of you that are eligible for the Clipperton Award are working hard at getting as many countries confirmed as you can. As for the DXer of the year, if anyone thinks they know of someone that should get this award they should write a letter saying why this person should have this award. Mail the letter to the Secretary of the club. **REMEMBER** the DXer of the year is not one that someone applies for. If you check the club web site and go to awards you will have an idea how both awards are done.



One last thing, and that is all full members should have received a copy of the revised Constitution and Bylaws. We will be voting on this first thing at the September meeting. A lot of work has gone into this starting with last years board and finally getting finished this month.

Remember Anchors Away Auction at the September meeting.

Hope to see all of you at the meeting

Larry Mallek K6YUI President SCDXC

[Officer Guidelines](http://www.scdxc.org/download/Officer_Guidelines.pdf)

http://www.scdxc.org/download/Officer_Guidelines.pdf

VICE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

John Schroeder, N6QQ,

Vice President – Southern California DX Club

n6qq@scdxc.org

Hello Everyone!

We all know that every group has it politics. Last meeting Dick Norton, N6AA, gave us a look into how much politicking must be done to get some issue passed with the ARRL board of directors. For many of us it seems unnecessary, however every issue and every activity we enjoy in ham radio has gone through this process. Besides Dick does seem to enjoy the battle. The ARRL does a lot of good for our hobby and for our society. Dick showed us how much effort it takes to move an issue along. Thanks Dick! Keep up the good work.

The September meeting is the annual Anchors Away Auction. **Bring the cash!** I want all the good stuff to be sold at auction. Good luck on your bidding.

September has been unofficially designated as the beginning of the contest season. As the seasons change the propagation picks up. There are several contests this month that will please both the novice and the dyed-in-the-wool tester.

One of the best RTTY contests of the year is on Sept. 25-26th. I hope to pick a few new ones. SU/HA5JB will be on using RTTY.

Need more JA contacts? Try the All Asian DX SSB contest on Sept 4-5. (covers all of Asia). This is always a fun contest and a good warm up for the remainder of the season.

Do you like VHF? Try the ARRL VHF QSO Party, Sept. 11-13. Maybe Wayne's (N6NB) armada will in rover mode and possibly we will see some 6 meter Es or Fs openings.

Did you work **ZS8M**? He back on the air. Looks like 40 meters is still the best bet. The SteppIR vertical has arrived and will be installed soon. You can follow his activities at

<http://www.iz8epy.it/html/zs8m.html>

Also look for these rare ones!

TO2FH - Mayotte

<http://dx-world.net/2009/to2fh-mayotte/>

5R8HT - Madagascar

<http://dx-world.net/2010/5r8ht-madagascar/>

I am looking forward to a great Auction! See you there!

73, John N6QQ

Vice-President, SCDXC



DXer of The Year
Congratulations Ernie
N6HY!
The Clipperton
Award
Congratulations Rich
AE6RS!

August Prize Winners

KJ6YL	LCD Monitor
KA6TTV	Tower Fan
K6DSW	Ink-Jet Printer
KJ6Y	Weather Station
W6GMU	Screw Drive Set
K6AWB	Lap Book Fan
N6DHZ	Mag Lite
W6GMU	Wireless Keyboard
W6MPB	Paper / Duct Tape
KA6TTV	Paper / Duct Tape
W6MPB	16 LED Lantern
K6SY	Neon Light



THE EDITOR

Bill Kendrick, N6RV,
Editor – Southern California DX Club
n6rv@scdxc.org

Hello My Fellow DXers!

We are back from two short trips. We drove up to Monterey staying for a few days then driving slowly down the coast. Thirty five years ago we took the 17 mile drive on the Carmel peninsula. We repeated the trip this time. All I can say is that I do not remember all the multi-million dollar mansions! Somebody is making money out there! We did another run up to Prescott to visit my father in law. It is amazing! Every time we go at least two new towers spring up. One is right down the road from Ray Benny, N6VR. My dream multi-multi station may have to be moved from Chino Valley to Flagstaff. By the time I get there all the houses will have towers!

The Summer Bash was great! It was fun just to kick back and see everyone. It is the first one we have attended ... ever! It is hard to believe but I was always somewhere else for the past 43 years! It was good to see the SDDXC folks particularly those who helped out on the convention as well as our ARRL reps.

I tell you the best way to meet people and make friends is to get involved. The 2012 convention committee will probably have its kick off meeting in a year. Make a note and plan to participate... you know it will be very close to the end of the world, maybe the last of its kind! (*Maybe that should be out there "It's the End of the World as We Know It"*) OK... at least we can make it out of this world.

If you look at the side bar you will note that we have quite a collection of new members. Last board meeting Mel announced that the newbies out did the SKs by a factor of 2:1. Not bad for the bottom of the sunspot cycle. Remember to meet these new members.

Speaking of the board I have to put in a plug. Here it is 3/4 the way through a convention year and the board has been doing a sterling job. Everyone is pitching in and working so well together. We even managed to approve the revised constitution and by-laws as well as the Guidelines at the last meeting. It was not a dry business like event. The atmosphere was both fun and serious... serious fun. Mel who did a bang up job hosting the meeting at his company tried to keep a straight face but he was overcome by the antics of some of the board members! It is good to laugh and enjoy the work! What a difference a year makes! It is an honor to be a part of such a great group!

Make sure to attend this meeting and cast your vote to ratify the revisions. The one major change is that appointees will no longer have voting privileges. Since I am the only appointee that shows up and votes it is no big deal. I can still write and be a burr in their saddle! That's more influential than a single vote!

New Members

Please welcome new members:

Gabriel Calfas
K6AWB

Diana Feinberg
AI6DF

Gene Brewer
W5DQ

Rick Crosmer
W6ENZ

Roger Merideth
K6GVO

Linda Souder
KD6HYN

Rob Reichman
WA3IHV

Lloyd Hendrickson
K6QNY

Arnold Schwartz
WB6PJC

Stan Thornton
KI6QM

David Lopez
N6RI

Dale Piedfort
KB7UB

Mark Willardson
N6OUZ

Barry Fitshe
N6VOH

Mary Gray
KH6VZ

Timothy Coker
N6WIN

***Make sure you meet
and greet them at the
next meeting!***

RUMORS ON THE BAND

A plethora of announcements, rumors, and serious DX fun

This month the rare DXpeditions have fallen to a handful but they are real gems! Keep an ear out for these groups as you scan the bands!

Wes, ZL2TE, reports that a YJ0 DXpedition underway. Three Australians and an American are going at it as you read this article. The operation ends tomorrow, 9/2.



Useful DX Sites

N0HR DXpedition Map
www.n0hr.com/wk34/

The DX Zone
www.dxzone.com/catalog/DX_Resources/

The Daily DX
www.dailydx.com/

Announced DX Ops
www.nq3k.com/misc/adxo.html

DXing.info
[/www.dxing.info/dxpeditions/](http://www.dxing.info/dxpeditions/)

DX 425 News
www.425dxn.org/dxped/

Dx-info.de
www.dx-info.de

DX Italia DX News
www.marioi2mqp.it

ZS8M, Pierre, on Marion Island has been very active when off duty. Several members have reported working him on 40 meters in the evening. Currently he is planning on setting up the SteppIR Big MK III vertical when the weather lets up. You can see his updates at <http://www.iz8epy.it/html/zs8m.html>



Blue Information indicate particularly rare entities and **Red information** indicate SCDXC member attended DXpedition. As always you have to turn on your radio to work them.

Call	QTH	Start Date	End Date	Information	Website
YJ0	Vanuatu	Now	9/2/2010	K3QB VK2CA VK3HJ VK3CB HF	-
TO2FH	Mayotte	9/3/2010	9/10/2010	PY2AAZ PY2TNT PY2XB PY2WAS	-
5R8HT	Madagascar	9/5/2010	11/28/2010	F4DBJ 80-10m	-
YK1BA	Syria	9/6/2010	9/17/2010	N5FF	http://www.qrz.com/db/yk1ba
SU	Egypt	9/15/2010	11/15/2010	SU/HA3JB CW RTTY SSTV PSK a little SSB	-
8Q7SO	Maldives	9/16/2010	9/26/2010	JK1KSB 80-10m SSB CW RTTY PSK	-
9X0TL	Rwanda	9/19/2010	9/28/2010	DL2RUM 80-6m SSB CW RTTY	http://dl2rum.de/dl2rum/DL2RUM_Home.html

DX ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Celebrate the Successes of Our Fellow Members!

Updates

K2PLF 6 Meter DXCC

Fellow member Marty, K2PLF reports that he has reached 100 confirmed on Six Meters. He also reports that it was all accomplished on E layer propagation. This gives Marty 10 Band DXCC! Way to go ! That is very impressive!

In his words: "I know this is a lot easier to accomplish operating from the East Coast, so I tip my hat to those who have done it from 6 land."

SCDXC WAZ and DXCC Standings (N6RV)

The first of the two large numbers represent the number of confirmed zones on the 9 HF bands 160-10 (less 60 meters). The next column contain the following codes:

M **Mixed**
P **Phone**
C **CW**
R **RTTY**
5 **5 Band**

If you have any information to post please email me:

N6RV@SCDXC.ORG

WAZ STANDINGS

	9B / 5B	Awards
EU7SA	355 / 200	M/5
N6AW	355 / 200	M/P/C/5
WA5VGI	352 / 200	M/P/C/5
W6VX	352 / 199	
K6FG	345 / 196	M/P/C/R/5
W6SR	342 / 200	M/P/C/5
W8DX	339 / 200	M/5
K6YUI	337 / 200	M/P/C/R/5
W6YOO	303 / 200	M/P/C/5
K6YRA	280 / 200	P/5
KC6X	278 / 200	M/C/5
N6RV	268 / 183	M/P/C
K6LD	271 / 172	M/P
KR6C	264 / 166	M/C
KJ6Y	261 / 172	
WD6L	248 / 200	M/P/5
K6SY	246 / 173	P
K6GXO	227 / 193	M
N6OU	220 / 200	M/5
N6DHZ	214 / 160	P
KH6DX/m	210 / 184	
NS6C	/ 198	
K2PLF	191 / 191	
K6KII	191 / 177	M
W6IRD	181 / 147	M/P
W6NRQ	180 / 147	M/P
K6IRD	154 / 126	M/P
WA6BOB	152 / 136	M
K6IRA	118 / 102	
W3SE	102 / 112	
K6VC	96 / 96	P
W6EA	92 / 86	
N6VNI	86 / 64	
KA6TTV	82 / 67	
N6UC	78 / 78	M
N6GIL	49 / 43	
W6DCK	40 / 40	P
WB6PSY	40 / 40	P
K6JW	40 / 40	M/P
K6YR	39 / 39	
KT6LA	36 / 36	
NZ6L	36 / 36	
N6HE	36 / 34	
W4EF	29 /	
N6AWD		M
N6HC		M/P/C
KB6KTV		P
W6OES		M
K8RD		C
K6UNR	/ 200	M/P/5

DXCC STANDINGS

	TOT / CUR
K6KII	382 / 338
JA1BK	377 / 338
K6YRA	372 / 338
N6UC	365 / 338
K6YUI	360 / 338
K6EXO	360 / 335
NS6C	355 / 338
N6AW	355 / 337
W6HT	354 / 338
W6SR	353 / 338
K6IPV	353 / 334
WA6WZO	352 / 338
K8RD	351 / 338
K5KT	350 / 338
K6FG	350 / 338
K6GXO	350 / 338
N6RV	349 / 336
K2PLF	349 / 338
N6RV	349 / 336
W8DX	348 / 337
W6OM	347 / 337
W6AUG	345 / 338
KC6X	344 / 337
W6OES	344 / 329
W6KK	343 / 338
W6VX	343 / 338
N6AWD	343 / 336
K6LD	343 / 338
W6DCK	342 / 336
WB6PSY	342 / 333
EU7SA	340 / 336
KB6KTV	340 / 335
W6YOO	340 / 334
WA5VGI	342 / 336
KR6C	337 / 335
N6OU	334 / 329
N6HC	333 / 338
W6IRD	327 / 324
K6UNR	333 / 332
W6QE	332 / 324
KJ6Y	327 / 323
K2IXQ	322 / 321
K6SY	312 / 310
AD6KQ	299 / 299
WD6L	295 / 292
W6HB	291 / 285
N6DHZ	286 / 284
W6NRQ	284 / 284
N7CQQ	268 / 266
K6JW	253 / 251
K6YR	244 / 244
K6GEP	239 / 226
K6DJ	236 / 236
K6HCJ	235 / 235
K6IRD	229 / 229
K6GEP	229 / 226
K6VC	227 / 227
WA6BOB	202 / 198
N6VNI	195 / 195
KT6LA	161 / 161
KA6TTV	145 / 145
N6HE	145 / 140
K6OGO	142 / 142
W6EA	138 / 138
W6WVW	134 / 134
W4EF	132 / 132
K6LX	125 / 125
WA6NOL	112 / 111
NZ6L	27 / 27

SPURIOUS OUTPUTS

Comments, Announcements, and Interesting Tid-Bits Submitted by Members

The Bostroms are on the Road! (N6IC)

Hopefully many have been receiving the epostcards from Don, N6IC. They are having the time of their lives touring Asia. The last card I received was from Cambodia. They do love to live dangerously! Hopefully Don will be able to give a presentation on all his DX operations on this trip!



Russian Prefixes (WB6PSY)

Gary found this entry in QRZ.com that identifies all the of the Russian prefixes and their location. If you are like me it is a handy document to have around.

<http://www.qrz.com/db/rw2l>

SPURIOUS OUTPUTS

Southern California Antique Radio Swap Meet (N6DHZ)

Not necessarily pertaining to DX or amateur radio in specific however interesting nonetheless the Southern California Antique Radio Society is having a swap meet on October 2, 2010 starting at 7:00 AM in the parking lot of Ford Electronics in Buena Park. It should be an interesting display of restored Radio from an amazing era. Go to the society website for more information.

www.antiqueradios.org

Generator Maintenance Class (N6VI)

I'm sending this to Mel's list of EU2000i purchasers to extend an invitation on behalf of Los Angeles ARES to a generator maintenance class that will be held as part of the next Los Angeles ARES Northwest District monthly meeting. The meeting begins at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday, September 4 and will be held at Valley Presbyterian Hospital in Van Nuys on Vanowen St. just east of Sepulveda Blvd. Parking in the front lot or the adjacent parking structure will be validated. We meet in the auditorium of the education building, which is toward the street and to the east of the main hospital entrance and down a short flight of stairs.

ARES member Mort Arditti NA6MA will cover basic maintenance and long-term storage of the Honda generators. In addition, we'll have a second training segment on how to install coax connectors, plus our regular monthly business. We welcome visitors and invite you to find out more about Los Angeles ARES. You'll find more details at www.arrlax.org.

Regards,
Marty Woll, N6VI

Generator Transfer Switch (W6MPB)

Urban has found a transfer switch which allows six household circuits to be transferred from city power to a generator. The unit mounts next to the breaker panel. It is UL approved. You can contact Urban regarding installation.

<http://www.gen-tran.com/eshop/10Expand.asp?ProductCode=15116V>

For Sale (KR6C)

Chuck received a request to forward this sale of a tower, antenna and radio to the newsletter from Bart, N7OD. Bart lives near Perris, CA. If Interested contact Chuck and he will put in touch with Bart.

Hi Chuck,

Do you know of anyone who is looking for a crank up tower (55 ft est.) and a TH-6 beam, rotator and maybe a Yaesu FT-1000D? The tower/antenna/rotator I would like to get \$1200. The radio I'm having a hard time releasing, but I ask for \$2300.

If you know of someone, please let me know.

Thanks
Bart

SPURIOUS OUTPUTS

Rick Samoian, W6SR, Appointed DXCC Card Checker (W6NRQ)

Member-at-large Rick has been appointed DXCC card checker for the ARRL. For those of us who know Rick we are sure that he will do a bang up job. By the way, when you go and visit him remember to bring you QSLs! Way to go Rick! Good to see you are still going at it!

SM7WT, Stan's CD "Amateur Radio Gives You 2 Million Friends" (W6NRQ)

Stan, SM7WT, has spent over 5000 hours producing a CD of short presentations from over 178 hams regarding their experiences in our hobby. It is written in book form.

Here are some other examples of what you can read in the presentations on the CD:

Why did King Hussein become a ham?

Why did SM7XU get married at the age of 95?

Several hams who lived behind the Iron Curtain tell us why they lost their licenses.

One ham tells how he was alone in a room with one of Hitler's closest culprits during WW2.

DK7PE has operated from 120 countries and SM7ZDC has visited 148 countries.

CU2JT tells the incredible story of how catching a fish changed his life.

One of the best known CW-operators and DXpeditioners used a stapler as his first key!

KT6YL tells how a QSO on 10 Meters led to her marriage.

SM5API tells how he got 16 TH6 beams and 16 towers for his project!

In Stan's words:

"What has inspired me to invite hams to write their presentations? I became fascinated by a book by W3VKD, "Ham register 1958," where hams told short stories about themselves. All I missed in that book were photos and longer stories. In 1994, I wrote my book, "Thanks to Amateur Radio" presenting 178 hams with black and white photos on 324 pages. This was before the Internet so all info was sent via snail mail."

"Today the CD corresponds to a book with 1471 pages and 1600 photos. It doesn't just present 347 hams; it also shows how hams today are helping humanity around the world and it contains stories and photos from several recent DXpeditions and of course it tells us about highlights in ham radio through the years since Heinrich Hertz in 1887 declared that these mysterious electromagnetic waves were of no use whatsoever."

"I have offered the CD for \$ 20 (\$ 15 for those who are presented on it), this includes postage and leaves just a few dollars for me so this is definitely not a way for me to make money. It is also possible to transfer the complete 1471 pages as five 20 MB files for \$ 8."

You can contact Stan at

SM7WTSTAN@GMAIL.COM

SPURIOUS OUTPUTS

Star of India Special Event (W6NRQ)

The Star of India Amateur Radio Club (NS6OI) at Maritime Museum San Diego will conduct Special Events during the Festival of Sails/Rendezvous of Tall Ships 2-6 September (Labor Day Weekend).

Operating hours will be 1600Z to 0300Z daily SSB on 14320 MHz and various SOCAL FM UHF/VHF repeaters. Station operations will be rotated on different days between the 3 masted barque Star of India, USS Dolphin Submarine Museum, and Soviet Foxtrot Class Attack Submarine Museum B-39 Cobra. Website www.sdmaritime.org ”

An Interesting Post Card (K6LD)

Keith forwarded this post card he found. It is probably early 1900s in Hollywood. The antenna appears to be a folded dipole or end fed Zepp. Maybe Dave, W6AQ, knew this guy? It looks like his house! Notice the price on the card. That was back in the day when buddy can you spare me a dime meant something. If the economy tracks postal prices that would be \$4.40. In today's prices it would be “buddy can you spare me a fin?”



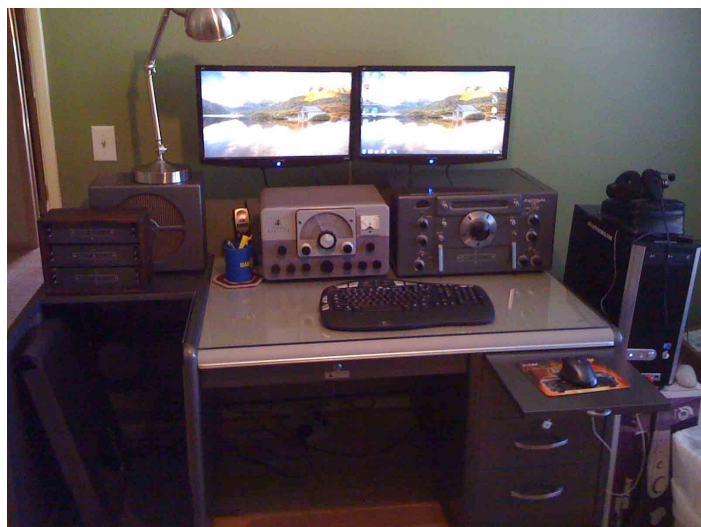
Looking for QSL Cards (W6MPB)

Urban has a friend who is an SWL. He is interested obtaining card collections from SKs. Anyone that can send him cards is appreciated. Please contact Urban for more information.

Jim's Classic Station (N6DHZ)

Jim has sent over a picture of his classic radio position. Pretty cool! It would be nice if you would send me pictures of your old gear... even from the time when it was new! Include a little description and a few DX memories. I could collect them into one group possibly organized by year or decade. It would make a great article!

I guarantee Jim is enjoying this station!



2010 TOP TEN MOST WANTED COUNTRIES

North America West Coast

Here we are still lingering around the bottom of the sunspot cycle. I thought it would be a good time to look at the most wanted list published by The DX Magazine and consider the countries most wanted by hams on the West Coast of North America. Maybe this will inspire us to become more active as the cycle progresses.

Looking at the list I can say that all these entities have been activated in my lifetime. That does not say much. It is interesting however that I think around three have been activate in the past year and around 6 have been active in the past decade or so. Over the next year I will be looking at each one of these entities individually. The emphasis will be on its history, geography, activity, and future planned activity. Included in the discussion will be questions just to keep those who fall asleep while reading on their toes.

There are several factors that make an entity rare. The principle reason for inactivity is obviously the lack of resident radio amateurs or limited activity of the few operators. The primary cause of this shortfall may be the lack of inhabitants at all! Six of the seven are in this category. Do you know which entities fall into this category (*Hint: Look at the pictures. A good indication of habitation is... buildings!*) The second most probable cause of inactivity is government prohibition. I see three countries that fit this criteria. Can you name them? One of these is currently in a class of its own having only a few recent operations and now amateur radio is banned. The other two were long standing rivals for that class but the political situation has changed, one for the good and one for the not so good.



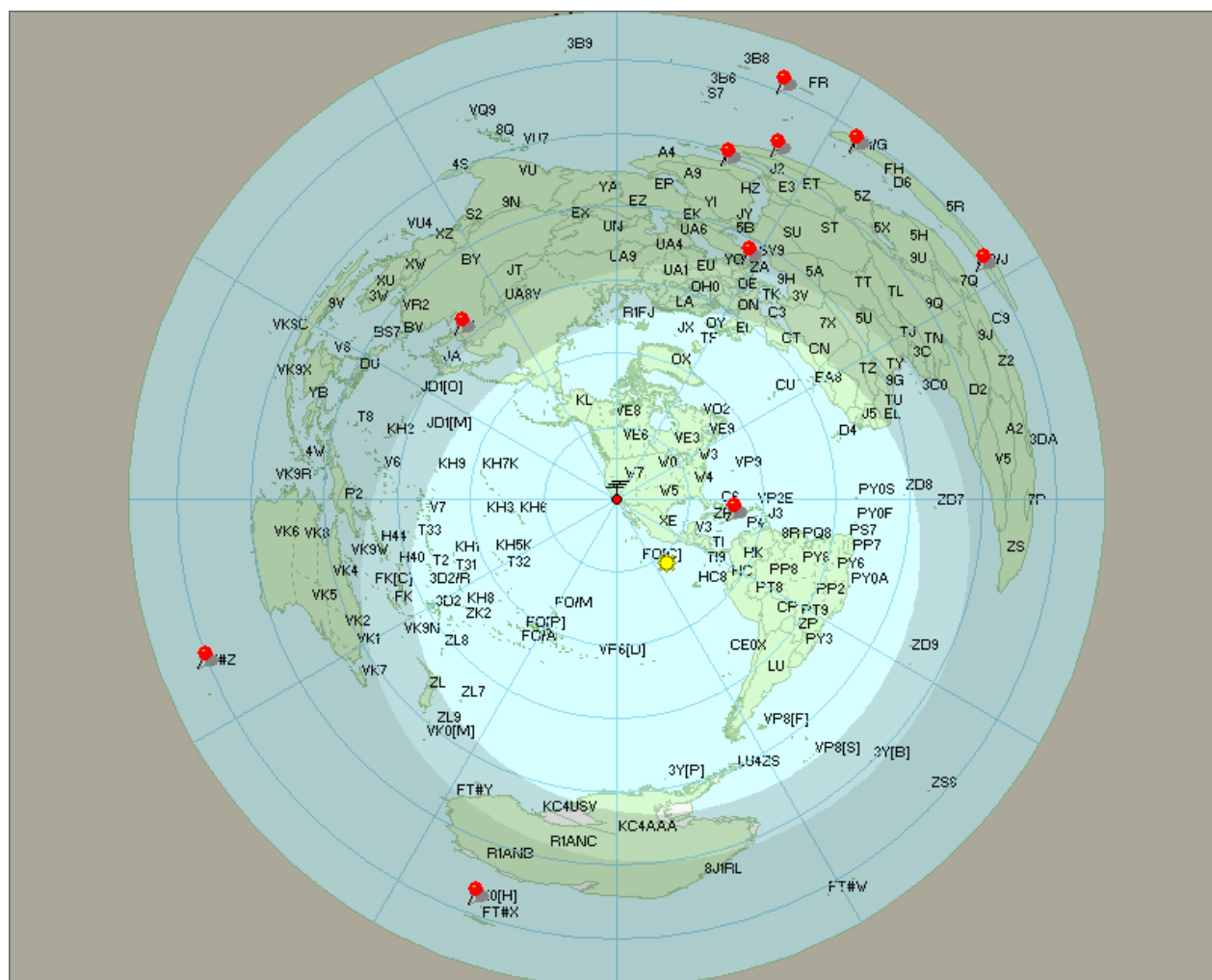
2010 TOP 10 NEEDED COUNTRIES NORTH AMERICA WEST COAST		
1	FT5G	GLORIOSO
2	SV/A	MOUNT ATHOS
3	P5	NORTH KOREA
4	7O	YEMEN
5	FT5T	TROMELIN
6	VK0/H	HEARD ISLAND
7	KP1	NAVASSA
8	T5	SOMALIA
9	FT5Z	AMSTERDAM
10	FT5/JE	JUAN DE NOVA/EUROPA

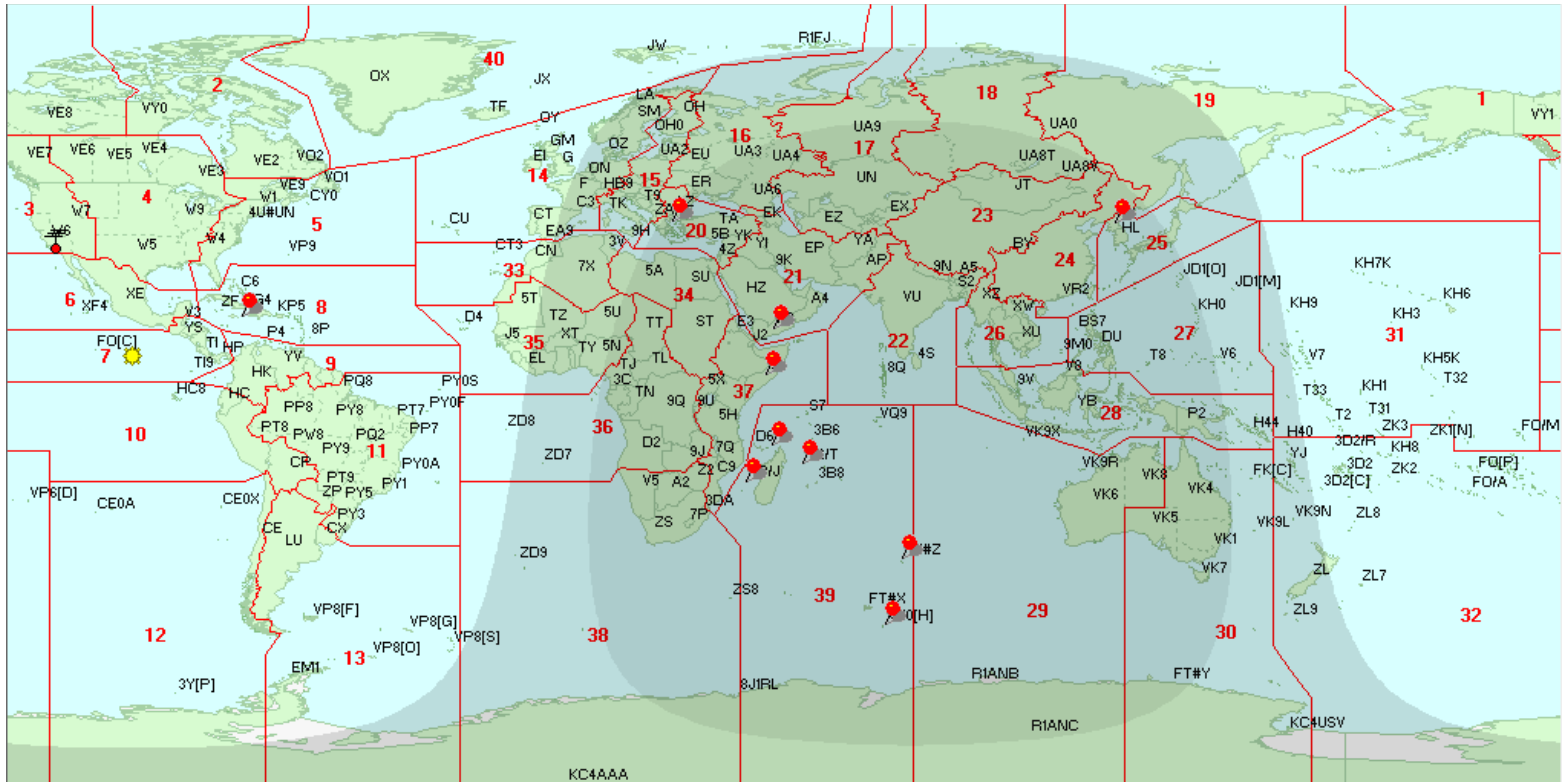


Along with restrictions for amateur radio operation many entities on the list have restricted access for safety and ecological concerns. For example Navassa Island, a possession of the US, is restricted access under the Department of the Interior. Like Desecheo Island amateur radio operation requires a permit process. The current method employed is putting together a team and making a bid for an expedition to the island. Both islands however have been populated with armed drug dealers or itinerant fisherman who have no concern about the local ecology. For Navassa its proximity to Haiti is probably a good indicator of the origin of this population.

One of the biggest detractors is the austere nature of the entity. Many are very isolated and can not sustain life due to inclement weather or the lack of water. Others are nearly impossible to land on with no beach or low laying terrain. One in particular requires arctic survival gear as well as an ice cutter with a helicopter making several trips to put a team on. One ham wrote an epic ode to this island. Can you guess which one it is?

Finally note the location of these entities on the azimuth map below. Most are at the rim. The rim of the map is actually a single point on the earth called the antipode. If you took a pencil and pierced a globe at the your QTH passing through the center of the earth the place on the opposite side where the pencil exits is the antipode. It is the farthest distance from your QTH on the face of the earth. One neat thing about this point is that all paths lead to it. Yes, you can point your antenna in any direction and you pass over that spot. At the same time this is an advantage and a problem. The signal can arrive from any azimuth angle. You just have to be pointing at the right one! This is an interesting phenomena that often wears out rotators! So not only is it as far as you can go away from the West Coast it can pop up at any angle. Are you grateful that the DX packet cluster system works so well?





The six uninhabited entities are Glorioso, Tromelin, Heard Island, Navassa, Amsterdam, and Juan De Nova / Europa. Actually some of these are not totally unpopulated. Probably the most inhospitable place on earth is Heard Island. There has been only a few journeys to this locale. Two happened concurrently which almost caused a furor and the most recent was some time ago during not so favorable propagation to the West Coast!

Next month we will explore the first two entities. North Korea and Mount Athos. Both these entities have some unusual history and recent activity nonetheless they populate the top of the list.

I hope this series will stimulate all of us to explore many of the countries and entities on the planet. We have learned so much regarding their geography and things pertaining to amateur radio. Just like working that first DX station it transforms our world from a few words on a piece of paper to a real place rich in history and people. For many of us it has become more. It has become a place filled with wonderful memories and good friends! Until next month keep your ear to the radio. We may get lucky!

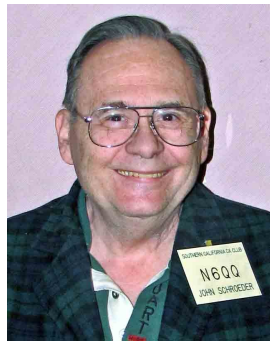
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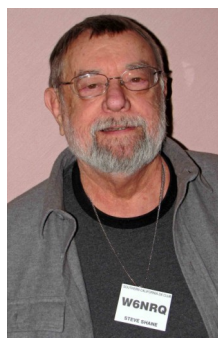
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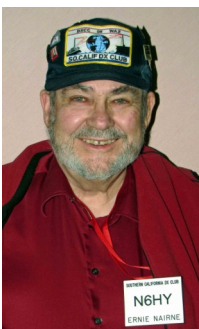
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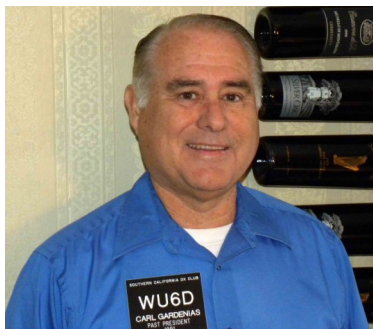
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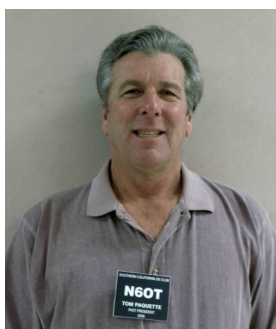
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